

RICHMOND.

The Record She Made in the Year 1885.

STEADILY GROWING.

Increase in Population, in Business, in New Houses.

PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY.

A Fine Showing in All Departments, Notwithstanding "Hard Times."

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

Jobbers' Sales Well Up and Manufacturers in Good Condition.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Municipal and School Matters, Court Records, Births and Marriages.

EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

Readable Record of Occurrences Here; Neurological and Other Tables.

RESUME OF CHURCH WORK.

Religious and Benevolent Bodies, Secret Orders, Military Commands, &c.

A WELCOME TO 1886.

In very good part indeed 1885 has satisfied the yearnings of Richmond. A new and handsome music hall is receiving the finishing touches. Street-cars connect us with Manchester. The foundations of a Union depot have been laid. Electric lights will soon dispel night's darkness from all our great thoroughfares. Money in nearly sufficient amount has been raised for a splendid Young Men's Christian Association hall. Work is about to be begun in enlarging and remodeling the custom-house and post-office building, and a plan for a new City Hall has been obtained, which, it is hoped, will enable the City Council to commence the building in the spring. We have been deplorably deficient here in imposing public edifices, but the new year brings with it the guarantee that this reproach shall in a measure be removed from us. Better than all this, the harmonies of the plan of street improvement, put into operation some ten years ago, now begin to reveal themselves. It is seen that we have already a beautiful city; it is foreseen that the present is only the bud which will have its blossom in the not very remote future. Gully-washed hills have been transformed into beautiful parks; ugly ravines have been made to disappear; rough places have been smoothed, and the reasons for the changes made in street-car lines are now understood, and the money thus expended is admitted to have been wisely invested. The improvements have been systematically designed, and, as year after year the plan is unfolded and worked out, the people will better and better appreciate the wisdom and foresight of the Engineer, who, in a large degree, has made the city what it is—what it is to be.

Richmond has, and is entitled to, the reputation of being the best-paved city of her population in the United States. From the Ribb station almost to Chimborazo, the hard brick sidewalks and granite curbing and gutters extend two and a half miles in a straight line, and nearly all the intersecting streets are well improved, while such prominent thoroughfares as Main, Broad, Governor, and Ninth streets not only have as good sidewalks as can be laid, but have paved roadways, of granite blocks mostly.

With such streets, with a fine sewerage system, abundant water supply, and the advantages of a healthy location as we possess, there is no reason why Richmond should not continue to grow rapidly in beauty, in population, and in wealth.

Around every park, on the line of every new avenue, the buildings springing up and keeping pace with city improvements show that such municipal expenditures pay directly in added taxable values. Happily, the expansion of the city has not been confined to any one direction. It grows on all sides. Recently it has wonderfully renewed its youth and added largely to its business and population. Church-Hill avenue and the construction of intersecting streets have given a new impetus to building in that direction, while north of Broad street, in the neighborhood of Gamble's Hill, and, very conspicuously, about Monroe street, large numbers of residences have been recently built. Broad, Main, and other great streets are yearly improved by elegant houses built for merchants and manufacturers.

Perched on hills on the bank of a river, which flows between the city and the sea, Richmond has a fine view of the water-power to drive its mills, and where merchants are so numerous, it is not surprising that a large percentage of its business is done in the city. The water-power is a great

city—great for manufacturers and commerce, great for social and educational advantages and happy homes.

As the Dispatch interprets the figures which its columns this morning tell, it feels proud that in these "tight times" Richmond has such a good record for 1885—such a grand promise for 1886.

**BUSINESS.**  
With merchants and manufacturers the year has been characterized by sharp competition, close margins of profit, low prices, and moderate sales. So it has been in nearly all branches of trade. In Virginia, while the corn and tobacco crops were fair there was a poor wheat crop, and our agricultural community was therefore not in as good financial condition as it ought to have been. Still the fall trade showed a marked improvement, the holiday sales were first-rate, and the prospects are that in the spring there will be a clearly-observable increase in business. "A big boom" can, however, hardly be looked for, if by that is meant that prices will rise to high points, and all of the unemployed have work to do at fancy figures. That sort of thing is not now to be expected. The further the war recedes into the distance the further we get from prices that belonged to those days of commotion and strife, and while fortunes have not been so slowly accumulated than in those flush times, the country, as a whole, is far better off; the people generally are happier, have more to make them comfortable, have better educational advantages, and are engaged in enterprises which will make solid the foundation of national prosperity.

**LEADING MANUFACTURERS.**  
Here in Richmond, in the way of manufacturing, the three leading departments are iron, tobacco, and grain. Owing in part to the embarrassments of the Gallego Mills Company—now, it is hoped, soon to be reorganized upon a sure and solid basis—our flourishing business fell off some, but it is only a check preparatory to a fresh start. The brands of our mills are widely celebrated. In South American ports they command high prices. In domestic markets they are not to be excelled, and it can hardly be doubted that such a favoring fall will come which will set their every wheel in motion and wait them into prosperity.

Iron was notoriously dull and low the land over, but in spite of that our works here kept up with a success that is a mark of distinction for the enterprising spirits who control them. In tobacco there was a fine increase. Vigor and activity distinguished the trade, and the products are greatly larger than in 1885, and the outlook is that the coming year will be better still.

In the manufacture of cigarettes, paper-boxes, bags, shirts, blank-books, &c., &c., about 2,000 white girls now find employment. So large a portion of what was formerly a non-producing population now find profitable labor, and is able to contribute to the family treasury.

While these three industries stand forth most prominently, in our tables of manufactures it will be observed that the city has a great variety of smaller manufactures, which in the aggregate contribute quite as much as these do to the prosperity and advancement of the city.

Upon the whole the manufacturers' exhibit for the year is an improvement over 1884, as witness the following figures:

**THE JOBBERS.**  
In our modern civilization the drummer—big part, the commercial traveler—plays a grand part. He builds up markets, he keeps freight trains running, fills steamboats, and gives "life" to the towns, and is the genial and indefatigable go-between, who keeps the retailer and the jobber in easy communication. He hears all of the news of the world; talks politics, religion, and science with equal readiness; knows the best brands in the markets, the best beds in the hotels, and is altogether an untiring, an irrepressible spirit. His mission carries him to remote villages and cross-roads; he has to travel in heat and cold; he has to fight battalions of competitors for all the orders he gets. No wonder his wits are sharpened; no wonder he comes to know "a thing or two." Upon such depends the success of the Richmond jobbing trade, and they have done well for us. They have carried our goods far and wide; they have built up markets for us all over the South and in many portions of the West, and have nobly stood up for Richmond.

The condition of the jobbing trade of this city for the past year, as reported to *Bradstreet's* by Mr. J. H. Whitty, their Richmond superintendent, is as follows:

The year 1885 cannot be called a prosperous year with the jobbing trade, neither was it a very bad one. The general volume of business was probably as large as in 1884, but values were much lower. The sales during 1884 are said to have amounted to about \$18,000,000, while this year \$17,000,000 is believed to be a very close estimate. The largest sales were in the grocery line, which business has materially increased in Richmond of late years. The bulk of that trade is done in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio. The goods sold last year amounted to \$7,000,000. Jobbers of confectionery, drugs, tobacco, and liquor have greatly made the most of the year. They have sold about two million dollars' worth of goods. The sales in this line

said to have fallen away some last year. Besides the depreciation in values, merchants say customers have been buying lighter stocks, and with a restricted territory to work in, they were satisfied to do a business during the year amounting to \$1,600,000. The shoe-trade sales came next, and amount to \$1,300,000. This branch is said to have held its own the past year. In the hardware trade the decrease in prices lessened sales considerably; they are put down at \$800,000, while in 1883 they are said to have run over a million dollars. The sale of drugs amount to \$625,000, which figures would not vary a great deal with those of the previous year. The drug jobbers have quite a large trade in tobaccoists' supplies, and most of their goods go to Virginia and the Carolinas. The sale of leather is on the increase, and amounted to the past year to \$500,000. In the notion line there was thought to be some falling off in the general result, sales only amounting to \$250,000. Sales in the millinery, hats, and caps line amounted to \$275,000. The sales of stationery, paper, and blank-books are on the increase; they are placed at \$200,000; furniture and picture-frames, \$300,000. The sales of clothing are small for a market like Richmond and the need for more houses in that line keenly felt. The sales amounted to \$175,000. The glassware trade sales amounted to \$150,000; rubber goods and plumbers' supplies, \$200,000, and woodware and brushes, \$200,000; carpets, \$50,000, and miscellaneous \$875,000. The failures in the jobbing trade were few and less than during the previous year. The prospects for the present year are considered good, and merchants anticipate doing an increased business of at least \$3,000,000. The number of changes in business firms at the beginning of the year will not be large. Several new houses will be started in the jobbing line.

**SOCIALLY AND SPECIALLY.**  
Richmond is at the head of tide, and 124 miles from the ocean as a vessel runs. The population is estimated at from 75,000 to 77,000; Manchester (across the James river) has 7,500; suburbs of Richmond, 3,000. Total, say 86,000. Deaths last year were of whites, 842; of blacks, 937—total, 1,779; in 1884 the value of personal property was \$13,337,335; now it is \$13,731,066.

The tax-rate is \$1.40 on the \$100 for the city; 40 cents on the \$100 for the State.

On all these points, and about building and building operations, this paper contains a great mass of information in detail. It also gives a list of the notable local events of the year, and of the deaths of well-known Richmond people. Further, it gives a resume of the work of the various departments of the city government and of the railroads of the city; gives a great chapter about churches, church work, church societies, and benevolent, social, musical and dramatic, and military organizations; departments of city trade, commercial bodies, &c.; gives another chapter about educational institutions and deals with criminal statistics, meteorological records, and a hundred and one things that bear upon the past year's history and the coming year's promise.

We may scan our city's account with 1885 with pleasurable emotions; we may look forward into 1886 confident that it only demands energy and public spirit on our part to make our city very great. Brilliant as Richmond is in historic renown, gloriously as the past century about her name, there is a possible future which may eclipse all that is gone before. To that end let every loving son and daughter work. May Richmond grow in beauty; may her increase in happy homes; may her population advance in numbers, in intelligence, in virtue; may our aim and resolve be as our salutation is—  
"A Happy New Year."

**CITY GAS-WORKS.**

The following is a statement of the operations of these works for the year ending December 31, 1885:

MONTHS.	Males.	Females.	Consumption, Cubic Feet, Cubic Feet.
January	16,235,500	16,196,024	
February	15,623,500	15,528,699	
March	15,320,400	15,116,814	
April	15,223,000	15,028,550	
May	15,888,100	15,042,293	
June	16,740,200	15,885,903	
July	17,807,400	17,787,609	
August	18,238,200	18,299,632	
September	17,734,100	17,736,158	
October	16,997,500	16,128,811	
November	17,419,400	17,099,659	
December	17,765,500	17,765,300	
Total	159,570,900	159,005,763	

The total quantity of coal used in the manufacture of this gas was 14,453 tons; total quantity of coke used in the retort-house, 240,377 bushels; total quantity of time used in purifying, 45,075 bushels.

Meters in use, 4,323; out of use, 92; introduced for new consumers, 293. Street-lamps laid to date, 56 miles 1.199 feet.

There have been put in for new consumers, 225 service-pipes; renewed or repaired, 244 service-pipes of various sizes; also repaired and renewed lamp-services in different parts of the city.

We have removed and replaced 34 lamps; 115 stop-cock boxes, &c.; occurred of alterations in the gas of streets; repaired 25 and put in new drains.

The improvements at the low works consist in the remodeling of one stack of six burners of retorts; the removal of eight purifying covers, and the deepening of the hydraulic seal on four of the purifiers.

**STATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXES FOR 1886.**

Value of real estate, \$35,347,883.

Value of personal property, 10,587,110.

Value of income, 1,800,476.

OUR MANUFACTORIES.

A representative of the Dispatch has visited every one of the six hundred and eighty-five manufacturing establishments of this city, and from the figures furnished him the following table is prepared. The past year was not expected to show any improvement in these industries, and yet it appears that a larger number of hands and more capital have been employed than during the preceding year. Employment was given to 16,526 hands in 1885 as against 15,676 in 1884—an increase of 844. The sales of the products of our manufactories in 1885 amounted to \$24,950,094; in 1884 to \$24,607,507—a gain in 1885 of \$342,587. It is gratifying to know that amidst the general depression in this country Richmond has more than held its own, and that the outlook for 1886 is brighter than for the years past.

**KINGS OF MANUFACTORIES.**

Number of Establishments.	Number of Hands.	Capital in Plant, &c.	Annual Sales.
1	248	\$ 8,000	\$ 420,000
2	225	75,000	165,000
3	180	75,000	192,500
4	160	105,000	165,000
5	124	35,100	175,400
6	105	105,000	167,500
7	104	150,000	203,900
8	104	326,000	1,149,343
9	102	109,000	394,000
10	102	45,000	3,000
11	97	169,000	265,000
12	97	169,000	265,000
13	97	169,000	265,000
14	97	169,000	265,000
15	97	169,000	265,000
16	97	169,000	265,000
17	97	169,000	265,000
18	97	169,000	265,000
19	97	169,000	265,000
20	97	169,000	265,000
21	97	169,000	265,000
22	97	169,000	265,000
23	97	169,000	265,000
24	97	169,000	265,000
25	97	169,000	265,000
26	97	169,000	265,000
27	97	169,000	265,000
28	97	169,000	265,000
29	97	169,000	265,000
30	97	169,000	265,000
31	97	169,000	265,000
32	97	169,000	265,000
33	97	169,000	265,000
34	97	169,000	265,000
35	97	169,000	265,000
36	97	169,000	265,000
37	97	169,000	265,000
38	97	169,000	265,000
39	97	169,000	265,000
40	97	169,000	265,000
41	97	169,000	265,000
42	97	169,000	265,000
43	97	169,000	265,000
44	97	169,000	265,000
45	97	169,000	265,000
46	97	169,000	265,000
47	97	169,000	265,000
48	97	169,000	265,000
49	97	169,000	265,000
50	97	169,000	265,000
51	97	169,000	265,000
52	97	169,000	265,000
53	97	169,000	265,000
54	97	169,000	265,000
55	97	169,000	265,000
56	97	169,000	265,000
57	97	169,000	265,000
58	97	169,000	265,000
59	97	169,000	265,000
60	97	169,000	265,000
61	97	169,000	265,000
62	97	169,000	265,000
63	97	169,000	265,000
64	97	169,000	265,000
65	97	169,000	265,000
66	97	169,000	265,000
67	97	169,000	265,000
68	97	169,000	265,000
69	97	169,000	265,000
70	97	169,000	265,000
71	97	169,000	265,000
72	97	169,000	265,000
73	97	169,000	265,000
74	97	169,000	265,000
75	97	169,000	265,000
76	97	169,000	265,000
77	97	169,000	265,000
78	97	169,000	265,000
79	97	169,000	265,000
80	97	169,000	265,000
81	97	169,000	265,000
82	97	169,000	265,000
83	97	169,000	265,000
84	97	169,000	265,000
85	97	169,000	265,000
86	97	169,000	265,000
87	97	169,000	265,000
88	97	169,000	265,000
89	97	169,000	265,000
90	97	169,000	265,000
91	97	169,000	265,000
92	97	169,000	265,000
93	97	169,000	265,000
94	97	169,000	265,000
95	97	169,000	265,000
96	97	169,000	265,000
97	97	169,000	265,000
98	97	169,000	265,000
99	97	169,000	265,000
100	97	169,000	265,000

Number of Establishments.	Number of Hands.	Capital in Plant, &c.	Annual Sales.
1	248	\$ 28,000	\$ 420,000
2	183	18,700	175,000
3	225	75,000	165,000
4	104	75,500	192,500
5	160	105,000	165,000
6	224	35,100	175,400
7	104	35,800	167,500
8	460	150,000	203,900
9	102	326,000	1,149,343
10	102	109,000	394,000
11	105	45,000	3,000
12	97	169,000	265,000
13	97	169,000	265,000
14	97	169,000	265,000
15	97	169,000	265,000
16	97	169,000	265,000
17	97	169,000	265,000
18	97	169,000	265,000
19	97	169,000	265,000
20	97	169,000	265,000
21	97	169,000	265,000
22	97	169,000	265,000
23	97	169,000	265,000
24	97	169,000	265,000
25	97	169,000	265,000
26	97	169,000	265,000
27	97	169,000	265,000
28	97	169,000	265,000
29	97	169,000	265,000
30	97	169,000	265,000
31	97	169,000	265,000
32	97	169,000	265,000
33	97	169,000	265,000
34	97	169,000	265,000
35	97	169,000	265,000
36	97	169,000	265,000
37	97	169,000	265,000
38	97	169,000	265,000
39	97	169,000	265,000
40	97	169,000	265,000
41	97	169,000	265,000
42	97	169,000	265,000
43	97	169,000	265,000
44	97	169,000	265,000
45	97	169,000	265,000
46	97	169,000	265,000
47	97	169,000	265,000
48	97	169,000	265,000
49	97	169,000	265,000
50	97	169,000	265,000
51	97	169,000	265,000
52	97	169,000	265,000
53	97	169,000	265,000
54	97	169,000	265,000
55	97	169,000	265,000
56	97	169,000	265,000
57	97	169,000	265,000
58	97	169,000	265,000
59	97	169,000	265,000
60	97	169,000	265,000
61	97	169,000	265,000
62	97	169,000	265,000
63	97	169,000	265,000
64	97	169,000	265,000
65	97	169,000	265,000
66	97	169,000	265,000
67	97	169,000	265,000
68	97	169,000	265,000
69	97	169,000	265,000
70	97	169,000	265,000
71	97	169,000	265,000
72	97	169,000	265,000
73	97	169,000	265,000
74	97	169,000	265,000
75	97	169,000	265,000
76	97	169,000	265,000
77	97	169,000	265,000
78	97	169,000	265,000
79	97	169,000	265,000
80	97	169,000	265,000
81	97	169,000	265,000
82	97	169,000	265,000
83	97	169,000	265,000
84	97	169,000	265,000
85	97	169,000	265,000
86	97	169,000	265,000
87	97	169,000	265,000
88	97	169,000	265,000
89	97	169,000	265,000
90	97	169,000	265,000
91	97	169,000	265,000
92	97	169,000	265,000
93	97	169,000	265,000
94	97	169,000	265,000
95	97	169,000	265,000
96	97	169,000	265,000
97	97	169,000	265,000
98	97	169,000	265,000
99	97	169,000	265,000
100	97	169,000	265,000
101	97	169,000	265,000
102	97	169,000	265,000
103	97	169,000	265,000
104	97	169,000	265,000
105	97	169,000	265,000
106	97	169,000	265,000
107	97	169,000	265,000
108	97	169,000	265,000
109	97	169,000	265,000
110	97	169,000	265,000
111	97	169,000	265,000
112	97	169,000	265,000
113	97	169,000	265,000
114	97	169,000	265,000
115	97	169,000	265,000
116	97	169,000	265,000
117	97	169,000	265,000
118	97	169,000	265,000
119	97	169,000	265,000
120	97	169,000	265,000
121	97	169,000	265,000
122	97	169,000	265,000
123	97	169,000	265,000
124	97	169,000	265,000
125	97	169,000	265,000
126	97	169,000	265,000
127	97	169,000	265,000
128	97	169,000	265,000
129	97	169,000	265,000
130	97	169,000	265,000
131	97	169,000	265,000
132	97	169,000	265,000
133	97	169,000	265,000
134	97	169,000	265,000
135	97	169,000	265,000
136	97	169,000	265,000
137	97	169,000	265,000
138	97	169,000	265,000
139	97	169,000	265,000
140	97	169,000	265,000
141	97	169,000	265,000
142	97	169,000	265,000
143	97	169,000	265,000
144	97	169,000	265,000
145	97	169,000	265,000
146	97	169,000	265,000
147	97	169,000	265,000
148	97	169,000	265,000
149	97	169,000	265,000
150	97	169,000	265,000
151	97	169,000	265,000
152	97	169,000	265,000
153	97	169,000	265,000
154	97	169,000	265,000
155	97	169,000	265,000
156	97	169,000	265,000
157	97	169,000	265,000
158	97	169,000	265,000
159	97	169,000	265,000
160	97	169,000	265,000
161	97	169,000	265,000
162	97	169,000	265,000
163	97	169,000	265,000
164	97	169,000	265,000
165	97	169,000	265,000
166	97	169,000	265,000
167	97	169,000	265,000
168	97	169,000	265,000
169	97	169,000	265,000
170	97	169,000	265,000
171	97	169,000	265,000
172	97	169,000	265,000
173	97	169,000	265,000
174	97	169,000	265,000
175	97	169,000	265,000
176	97	169,000	265,000
177	97	169,000	265,000
178	97	169,000	265,000
179	97	169,000	265,000
180	97	169,000	265,000
181	97	169,000	265,000
182	97	169,000	265,000
183	97	169,000	265,000
184	97	169,000	265,000
185	97	169,000	265,000
186	97	169,000	265,000
187	97	169,000	265,000
188	97	169,000	265,000
189	97	169,000	265,000
190	97	169,000	265,000
191	97	169,000	265,000
192	97	169,000	265,000
193	97	169,000	265,000
194	97	169,000	265,000
195	97	169,000	265,000
196	97	169,000	265,000
197	97	169,000	265,000
198	97	169,000	265,000
199	97	169,000	265,000
200	97	169,000	265,000
201	97	169,000	265,000
202	97	169,000	265,000
203	97	169,000	265,000
204	97	169,000	265,000
205	97	169,000	265,000
206	97	169,000	265,000
207	97	169,000	265,000
208	97	169,000	265,000
209	97	169,000	265,000
210	97	169,000	265,000
211	97	169,000	265,000
212	97	169,000	265,000
213	97	169,000	265,000
214	97	169,000	265,000
215	97	169,000	265,000
216	97	169,000	265,000
217	97	169,000	265,000
218	97	169,000	265,000
219	97	169,000	265,000
220	97	169,000	265,000
221	97	169,000	265,000
222	97	169,000	265,000
223	97	169,000	265,000
224	97	169,000	265,000
225	97	169,000	265,000
226	97	169,000	265,000
227	97	169,000	265,000
228	97	169,000	265,000
229	97	169,000	265,000
230	97	169,000	265,000
231	97	169,000	265,000
232	97	169,000	265,000
233	97	169,000	265,000
234	97	169,000	265,000
235	97	169,000	265,000
236	97	169,000	265,000
237	97	169,000	265,000
238	97	169,000	265,000
239	97	169,000	265,000
240	97	169,000	265,000
241	97	169,000	265,000
242	97	169,000	265,000
243	97	169,000	265,000
244	97	169,000	265,000
245	97	169,000	265,000
246	97	169,000	265,000
247	97	169,000	265,000
248	97	169,000	265,000
249	97	169,000	265,000
250	97	169,000	265,000
251	97	169,000	265,000
252	97	169,000	265,000
253	97	169,000	265,000
254	97	169,000	265,000
255	97	169,000	265,000
256	97	169,000	265,000
257	97	169,000	265,000
258	97	169,000	265,000
259	97	169,000	265,000
260	97	169,000	265,000
261	97	169,000	265,000
262	97	169,000	265,000
263	97	169,000	265,000
264	97	169,000	265,000
265	97	169,000	265,000
266	97	169,000	265,000
267	97	169,000	265,000
268	97	169,000	265,000
269	97	169,000	265,000
270	97	169,000	265,000
271	97	169,000	265,000
272	97	169,000	265,000
273	97	169,000	265,000
274	97	169,000	265,000
275	97	169,000	265,000
276	97	169,000	265,000
277	97	169,000	265,000
278	97	169,000	265,000
279	97	169,000	265,000
280	97	169,000	265,000
281	97	169,000	265,000
282	97	169,000	265,000
283	97	169,000	265,000
284	97	169,000	265,000
285	97	169,000	265,000
286	97	169,000	265,000
287	97	169,000	265,000
288	97	169,000	265,000
289	97	169,000	265,000
290	97		